

Remarks

The Office Action raised certain art rejections with respect to claims 2-10, 12, 15, 16, 19-21 and 45-47, and confirmed the prior allowed claims 13, 14, 17, 18 and 24-36. In view of the above amendment, and the remarks below, consideration of further amended claims 2, 5, 7-10, 12, 15, 16, 19, 20, 45 and 46 is respectfully requested.

Previously Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action confirmed the allowance of claims 13, 14, 17, 18 and 24-36. Since they are not being amended by this submission, they should remain allowable. Also, claims 15-16 and 45 (and thus claim 46) have been amended to depend from allowed claim 13. Claim 19 (and therefore also claim 20) has been amended to depend from allowed claim 17. Therefore, claims 15-16, 19-20, and 45-46 should also be allowable.

Art Rejections

To simplify the remaining issues, claims 3-5, 21 and 47 have been canceled. Certain other dependencies have been changed to avoid dependency on a newly canceled claim.

Next, Applicants note that the only rejection of claim 6 in the Office Action was an anticipation rejection in paragraph 4. In that paragraph, the Office Action interpreted the claim 6 limitation as being a product by process limitation, rather than a structural feature. Hence, it did not give weight to that limitation.

The claim 6 limitation has now been restated as a structural feature of the brush head via incorporation directly into claim 2 (and thus into the remaining claims that are dependent thereon). Claim 6 has been canceled to further simplify the remaining

issues. Nothing in U.S. patent 4,441,228 (the '228 reference) teaches pressure bonding to hold the layers together. Since this subject matter is not taught in the cited reference, and is presented as a structural limitation, the anticipation rejection is overcome.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested. As no claims have been added, no additional fee is believed necessary for consideration of this amendment. However, if one is, please charge it to Deposit Account 10-0849.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas A. Soller *et al.*

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By:



Linda Blair Meier
S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc.
Legal Department
1525 Howe Street, MS 077
Racine, WI 53403
Reg. No.: 39,769
262-260-2474